GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:221
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
BILATERAL AGREEMENT OF AIR INDIA WITH HONG KONG
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India`s expansion plan to US is likelyto be affected in the absence of bilateral agreement with Hong Kong which does not allow the airlines to take traffic from Hong Kong to places like Los Angeles, San Franciso etc;

(b) if so, the extent to which the service is viable without incorporating the high growth Hong Kong sector; and

(c) the steps taken for the execution of a bilateral agreement with Hong Kong?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a), (b) and (c): No Sir. According to the existing Air Services Agreement between India and Hong Kong, Air Indiacan operate to Hong Kong via points in Thailand and Vietnamand to beyond points in Japan and Seoul with traffic rights. As regards USA, Air India can operate any number of services without any restrictions on type of aircraft to New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles and 4 additional points as selected by the Government of India.